

Johnny Mack Brown





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WESTERN SONGS



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Among the few things to remain unchanged by our modern civilization are the songs and ballads of the old west. The very same western songs that were sung on the trails of Texas, and in the cow camps across the vast sagebrush expanse from Wyoming to California, are still sung today by a new generation of trail-dusty, unshaven cowhands.

The old range land songs and ballads, almost without exception, are stories of heroic action, manly chivalry and sentiment, loyalty to man and beast, and a deep respect for women. These things combined make up the Western Code, which was still aplaud whoever the spirit of the West prevails.

The cowboy sang his lusty or sentimental ballads for many seasons. He sang to entertain himself on lonely rides, or to quiet restive cattle on a waterless or stormy trail. Sometimes he sang just for the fun of it, but more often because he liked the sad, sentimental strain that runs through most western ballads. Since his daily routine was raw and lusty, he often sang of the "tender things" of life. And



when the songs told of strife and death, almost invariably honor and right won over wrong.

Many times the cowboy improvised the songs he sang, as for example the "Ogallala Song," which was just made up as the trail went north by men singing on night guard, with a verse for every river on the trail. Another example was the "Old Chisholm Trail," a song of life on the endless, dusty longhorn trails up from Texas, to which was added improvised verses numbering more than a hundred odd.



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JOHNNY MACK BROWN

and The Disappearing Cattle

EASY, REBEL, HENDERSON'S RANCH IS JUST BEYOND THAT OLD PUEBLO VILLAGE! WE'LL SOON KNOW WHY HE SENT FOR US... HOLD IT, REBEL... THERE'S TROUBLE BREWING!

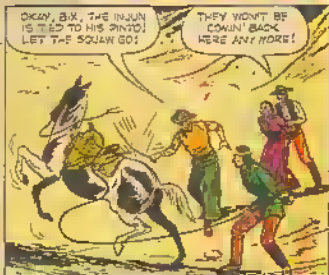


LET'S GO, REBEL! THAT INDIAN NEEDS HELP!



OKAY, SIX, THE INDIAN IS TIED TO HIS PINTO! LET THE SQUAW GO!

THEY WON'T BE COMIN' BACK HERE ANY MORE!



HEY! SOMEBODY SHOT THAT REBEL!

THAT GUY'S TOO LANCY WITH A SIX GUN... I'M GETTIN' OUTA HERE...



...BUT FAST!

ME TOO!





LATER...

THIS IS HENDERSON'S
RANCH, REBEL! I
WONDER WHY HE
SENT FOR ME?



WHAT TO...



HA, HA! DON'T SHOOT, JOHNNY...
IT'S ONLY ME!

LARRY
HENDERSON!



I WAS OUT RIDIN'
FENCE AN' SAW YOU
COULDN' SO I THOUGHT
I'D HAVE SOME FUN!
YOU'RE NOT SCRE...
ARE YOU, JOHNNY?

NO, LARRY!
I'M REAL PROUD
OF THE WAY YOU
THREW THAT LOOP!



I SURE IMPROVED SINCE YOU BIRS-
TAUGHT ME! MUM, JOHNNY?

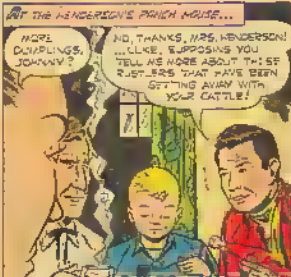
YES, LARRY, YOU
HAVE...! NOW WE BETTER
HIGH-TAIL IT OVER TO THE RANCH
NO, SE AND SEE
WHAT'S TROUBLING
YOUR PA!



AT THE HENDERSON'S PANCH HOUSE...

MORE
CHAMPINGS,
JOHNNY?

NO, THANKS, MRS. HENDERSON!
...CLKE, SUPPOSING YOU
TELL ME MORE ABOUT TH' SE
RUSTLERS THAT HAVE BEEN
GETTING AWAY WITH
YOUR CATTLE!



I DON'T KNOW HOW IN TARNATION
THEY'RE RUSTLIN' 'EM, AND I DON'T
KNOW WHERE THE CATTLE
DISAPPEAR TO! BUT ONE THING
I KNOW FOR FURT... IF IT KEEPS
ON I'LL BE RUINED!



WHAT ABOUT TRACKS?

WE ALWAYS FIND TRACKS
OF THE HORNBRE WHO CUTS
THE FENCE, BUT WE NEVER
FIND ANY STEER TRACKS!
SEEMS LIKE THE
CATTLE VANISH
INTO THIN AIR!



AND WE NEVER FIND MORE THAN ONE
BREAK IN THE FENCE! LAST
NIGHT I LOST ANOTHER
HUNDRED HEAD!



I'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THAT BREAK
IN THE FENCE!

IT'D BE TOO DARK TO
GO NOW! BUT LARRY
CAN TAKE YOU THERE
FIRST THING IN
THE MORNING!



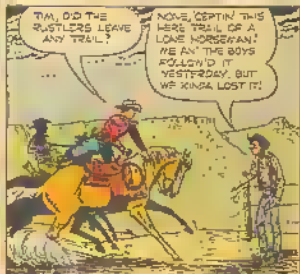
NEXT MORNING...

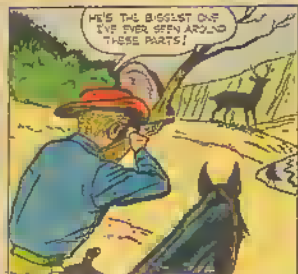
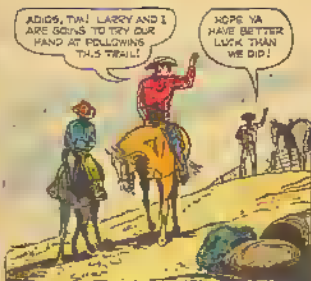
THAT'S TIM! PA SENT
HIM OUT TO FIX
THE FENCE!

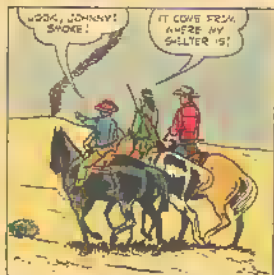


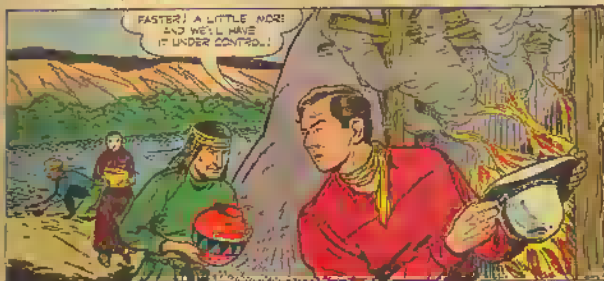
TIM, DID THE
RUSTLERS LEAVE
ANY TRAIL?

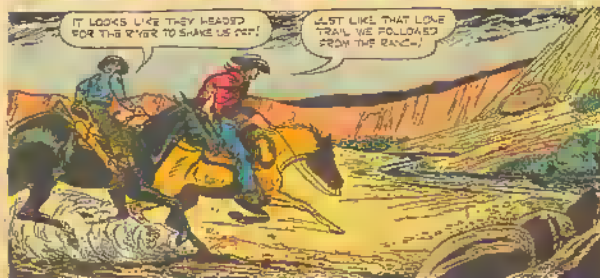
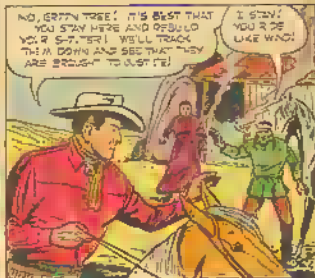
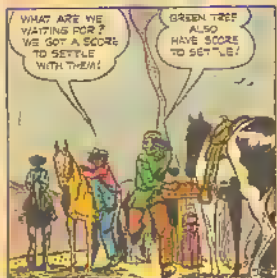
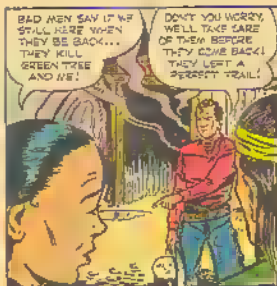
NOPE, 'CEPTIN' THIS
HERE TRAIL OF A
LONE HORSEMAN!
HE AN' THE BOYS
FOLLOW'D IT
YESTERDAY, BUT
WE KUNDA LOST IT!











THEY COULDN'T HAVE CROSSED
THE RIVER. IT'S TOO DEEP! LET'S
"BACK LOG" TEAM, LARRY!



THIS IS WHERE THEY CAME OUT!
SEEMS LIKE THEY TRAVELLED
UP TO THE TOP OF THE
MOUNTAIN, FOLLOW
ME, LARRY!



LOOK! A WOODEN VALLEY.
SO THAT'S WHERE THEY'VE
BEEN HIDING FRO'S CATTLE!

LOOK! LIKE THEY'RE HAVING
THEMSELVES A POWWOW!
LET'S LEAVE THE HORSES
AND GET WITHIN
HEARING DISTANCE!



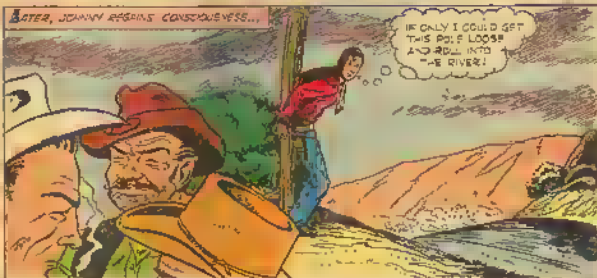
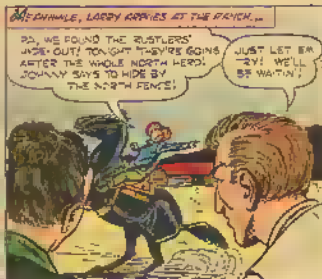
THOSE ARE THE SINE TWO
OWLHOOTS THAT'VE BEEN
PLAGUING GREEN TREE!
I WONDER WHY THOSE
RUSTLERS WANT HIM
OUT OF THE WAY?

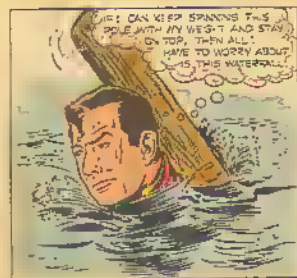
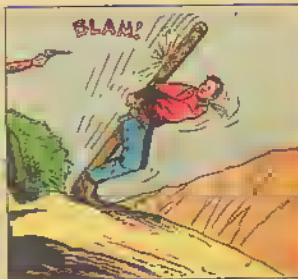
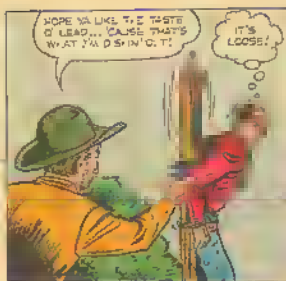


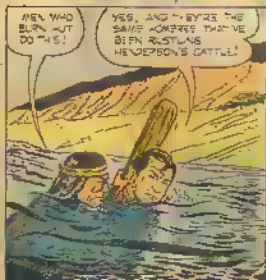
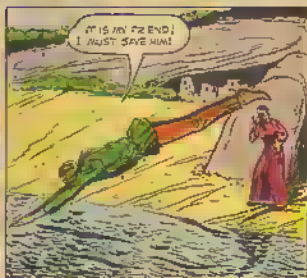
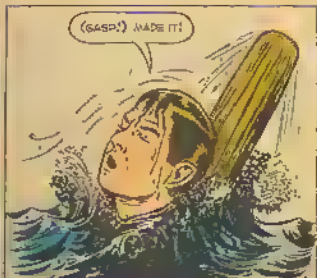
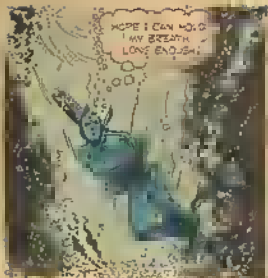
BOYS, SOME SMART CONBOY IS GETTIN'
TOO NOSEY! SO WE'LL MAKE TONIGHT
THE BIG PAYOFF AND
THEN BREAK CAMP!



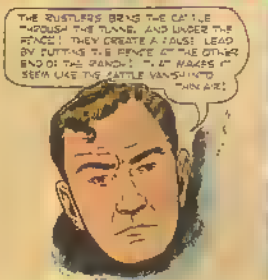












JOHNNY, THANK
HEAVENS YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT!

NO TIME TO EXPLAIN
NOW! WE'LL HAVE TO
RIDE FAST TO SAVE
THE NORTH HERD!
TAKE CARE OF
GREEN TREE'S SOJAN!

BACK AT THE
HENDERSON'S
RANCH...

JOHNNY AND GREEN TREE RIDE TO WARN
HENDERSON OF THE RUSTLERS' TRICK...

THAT'S THE NORTH HERD THEY'RE
RUSTLING! WE BETTER CIRCLE
THEM AND KEEP OUT OF SIGHT!

THAT'S HOW THEY COVERED UP
THEIR TRACKS LEADING TO THE
TUNNEL! THEY DROVE
BUSHWOOD BEHIND THEM!

HENDERSON WAIT BY NORTH
FENCE... BUT RUSTLERS DRIVE
CATTLE SOUTH TO TUNNEL!
WE MUST GO FIND HIM!

JOEY FIND HENDERSON AND HIS MEN
SURROUNDING THE NORTH FENCE...

LUKE, YOU'VE BEEN
TRICKED! HAVE YOUR
MEN GRAB THOSE
TORCHES AND FOLLOW
ME! I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!

RIGHT,
JOHNNY!

THE RUSTLERS WILL DRIVE
THE CATTLE OUT OF AN OLD
TUNNEL BY THE WATERFALL!
LET THE CATTLE THROUGH...
AND THEN WE'LL MOVE IN AND
AMBUSH THOSE RODEOS!

HERE THEY COME! HOLD UP YOUR TORCHES, MEN!



IF YOU HORNBRES CHOOSE TO SHOOT
IT OUT--THE TORCHES WILL GIVE
YOU AN IDEA OF HOW MANY THERE
ARE OF US!



GIVE EM SOME
GUN PLAY, MEN!

AMEN!



YOU AIN'T TAKEN
ME SO EASY!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF
YOU PERSONALLY!



BLAST THAT CONFOKE--
HE'S TORN SPOCKED
MY HORSE!





JOHNNY MACK BROWN

RIMROCK ROBBERY

EARLY ONE MORNING IN RIMROCK...

JOHNNY:
JOHNNY MACK
BROWN!

WELL, IF
IT ISN'T
MY OLD
FRIEND PAUL
JONATHAN!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN
RIMROCK? I THOUGHT YOU WERE
BUSY AT YOUR RANCH IN COTTONBURF!

I CAME TO TALK ON
BUSINESS...! BY THE WAY,
HAVE YOU MET MY
DAUGHTER, PEGGY?

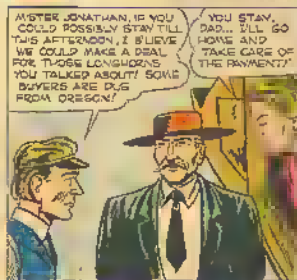
YOU'RE JUST
IN TIME TO SEE
US OFF ON THE
STAGE, JOHNNY!

WHY DON'T YOU
TAKE THE NEXT
ONE? WE'LL HAVE
DINNER TOGETHER!

SORRY, JOHNNY, BUT WE'VE GOT TO
HURRY BACK! THIS MONEY HAS TO BE
PAID ON MY MORTGAGE... OTHERWISE
IT'LL BE FORECLOSED!

WE'VE GOT TILL
SIX O'CLOCK TO
GET IT TO
THE BANK!

STAGE TO
COTTONBURF...
LEAVING NOW!



IT'S NICE TO HAVE SO MUCH ZOOM! ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF - I'M ALDYSIUS ADAMS, AND THIS IS MY FRIEND, WILLIAM BAKER! WE'RE FROM TRENTON, NEW JERSEY!

GLAD TO KNOW YOU! I'M JOHNNY MACK BROWN, AND THIS IS MISS JONATHAN!



TWO HOURS LATER...

WE'RE AT THE WATER HOLE! LUNCH STOP!



YOU MUST SHARE OUR LUNCH, MISS JONATHAN! AND YOU TOO, MISTER BROWN!

WELL, THANKS, MISTER ADAMS!

I'M GLAD I CAME PREPARED!



NOW, REACH!

WHY, YOU S'PEWIDER!



SUCH BAD MANNERS!

JOHNNY!

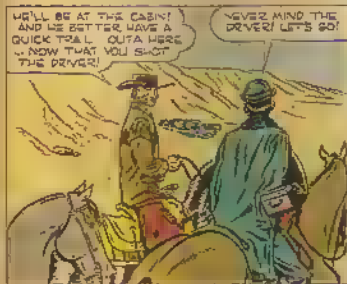
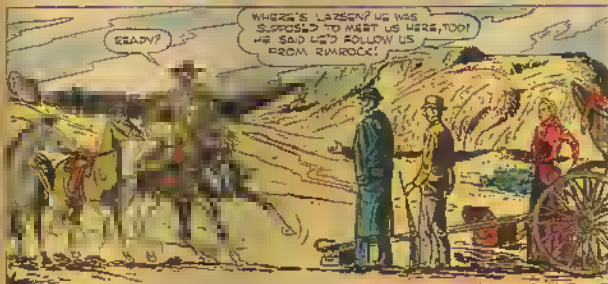
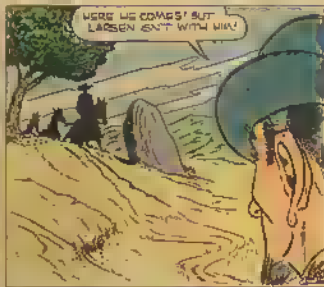


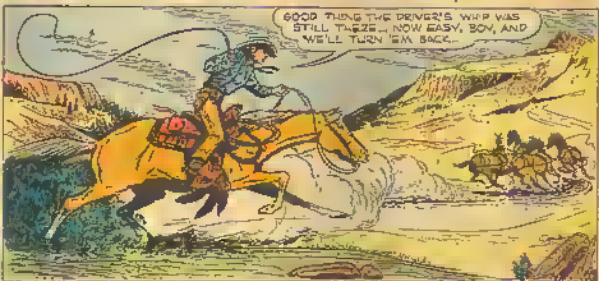
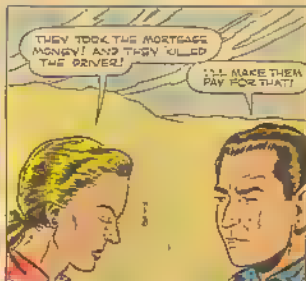
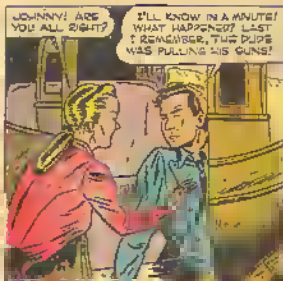
YOU, DRIVER, GET DOWN! UNLESS YOU WANT A BULLET IN YOUR BACK!

OH, NO, YOU DON'T!









I'LL TAKE ONE TO
RIDE, JOHNNY, AN
TIE THE OTHER THREE
TO THE STAGE TILL
SOMEONE CAN COME
AND GET THEM!



I THINK YOU CAN
RIDE THE LEAD
HORSE, PEG! BUT
THERE'S NO SADDLE!

I WON'T NEED
ONE! I'LL USE
A BLANKET!



NOW, DID THEY SAY
WHERE THEY
WERE GOING?

NO, BUT THEY DIDN'T
SEEM TO KNOW THE
TERRITORY WELL. SEEMED
TO BE WAITING FOR SOMEONE
TO LEAD THEM OUT BY A
BACK ROAD!



THAT WAS SMART OF 'EM... IF
THEY PASS COTTONBLUFF, THEY
MIGHT BE NOTICED. THEIR TRACKS
SEEM TO HEAD INTO THE HILLS!



LATER...

I'LL HAVE TO ADMIT
THAT WAS ONE OF THE
SMARTEST JOBS I'VE
EVER SEEN. WONDER
HOW THEY GOT THEIR
INFORMATION ABOUT
THE STAGE MONEY?

ONE OF THEM SAID SOME-
THING ABOUT SOME FELLOW
COMING FROM RYROC...
MAYBE HE
KNEW THE
DETAILS!



HMM...
MAYBE THEY'RE HOLED
UP IN THAT CABIN
DOWN THERE!



